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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Recruiting of German Specialists by Yugoslav Military Mission

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 25 July 1947

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SUPPLEMENT 25X1A

ORIGIN
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1. When German skilled workers in Berlin are wanted for work in Yugoslavia, notices to this effect appear on factory bulletin boards. The positions are described as temporary and the conditions offered are very advantageous. Interested workers are asked to see the Yugoslav Military Mission at Hohmeierstrasse 13 in Berlin-Hohenschönhausen, which supplies further information and makes all arrangements with German and Yugoslav agencies before the workers are sent to Yugoslavia.

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Comment: Hohmeierstrasse 13 has not been located in available Berlin street directories.

2. Contracts are offered only after three months' employment in Yugoslavia. Those so far submitted to Germans in that country have been disappointing and some men have complained, by mail, that promises made to them before their departure have not been fulfilled - e.g., they have to provide their own food. The contracts run for two years. A film developer is paid a monthly salary of 1,500 dinars. These men have not been able to send money or packages to their families in Germany and the Yugoslav authorities in Berlin have done nothing for German dependents.
3. Among recent recruits were two sound experts, a developer, and three other specialists from the Babelsberg film studios. These men were not given contracts, only oral assurances concerning wages, living conditions, and the type of work they would do. The Yugoslav Military Mission sent them to an office in the Wallstrasse, where they presumably talked with a Yugoslav film executive. They traveled to Yugoslavia by car, stopping in Prague for four days en route. After being initially berthed in a Belgrade hotel, the six men were given an apartment consisting of two rooms and a kitchen.
4. In contrast to the statements about dependents made in paragraph 2 above, [REDACTED] reports that the Yugoslav Military Mission changed its policy in early May 1947 and is now trying to expedite the shipment of [REDACTED]

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dependents. Between 18 and 24 May, approximately ten families went to Yugoslavia, presumably by train, since the bus service between Berlin and Belgrade has been discontinued. This source states that food packages sent from Yugoslavia to Germany have been limited to five kilos per month.

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5. Source of Paragraph 4 states that, on or about 20 May, a shipment of workers to Yugoslavia included two chemists specializing in gas heating, three motor construction engineers (two of them for aircraft engines), and four former employees of the Berlin Elektrizitätswerke AG (BEWAG).

6. [REDACTED] 25X1X

7. The Yugoslavs, who have been chiefly interested in engineers, are said not to have checked the past histories of the men hired, with the result that after some period of work in Yugoslavia some of the "engineers" were revealed to be mere skilled workers. Recently, Yugoslav interest has been concentrated on mining engineers and former armament industry employees. Personnel shipments to Yugoslavia are made every three months.

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